

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

TAUSCHER, Ellen O. (Democrat)
Representative, 10th District, California
Elected to the 105th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



BACKGROUND

Born: Newark, New Jersey - 15 November 1951

Home: Pleasanton, California

Marital Status: Separated - 1 child

Religion: Roman Catholic

Education: Seton Hall Univ, B.A., 1974

Military: None.

Profession: Child care screening executive

Political: No previous office. Defeated two-term incumbent Rep. Bill Baker (R) with 49% of vote; reelected in 2000 with 53%; and in 2002 with 75%.

Rep Tauscher is a moderate-to-conservative Democrat, belonging to both the centrist New Democrat Coalition and the fiscally conservative Blue Dogs. Strong business background – one of the first women to hold a seat on the NY Stock Exchange; works to protect her affluent constituency, supporting such efforts as reducing estate taxes. In the 105th Congress was appointed to the National Security Cmte (Armed Services).

In the 106th Congress urged tht Yugoslavian leader Milosevic be held accountable for ethnic killings in Kosovo. At a 20Jan99 HASC hearing, pledged her full support for increasing the readiness of the US military, particularly efforts to improve the conditions of service and pay scales in an effort to improve recruiting and retention. Opposed HASC report language in the FY00 DoD auth that prohibited use of funds for combat or peacekeeping operations in Yugoslavia and voiced dissatisfaction with Cmte's failure to repeal the ban on abortion in overseas military hospitals. Supported the reorganization of the DoE in response to management failures and a lack of accountability. Called the departure rate of women recruits a "dramatic rejection of the military" that the government urgently needs to understand. (LA Times, 29Nov99) In the 107th Congress cosponsored a bill to guarantee voting rights of overseas military personnel, called for taking MX missiles off of high alert status, supported a limited missile defense system that did not abrogate the ABM treaty, urged a restoration of \$104.5M in funding cuts for the C-5 upgrade in the FY02 DoD approps, objected to the inclusion of language in the FY03 DoD auth that she said would jeopardize wilderness study areas beneath the air space of the Utah Test & Training Range (UTTR), opposed the development and deployment of nuclear-tipped ballistic missile interceptors; supported maintaining flexibility to reduce operationally deployed nuclear weapons below 1700; and supported stronger notification requirements prior to resumption of underground nuclear testing. Criticized the Sept 2002 national security strategy released by the Bush administration. Concerned with domestic violence on military installations.

In the 108th Congress, picked up Travis AFB as a result of redistricting.

Additional: Lawrence Livermore Natl' Laboratories in the district; Her sister is married to a former F-111 pilot.

AF Bases: Travis AFB

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES - Subcs on: Strategic Forces; Projection Forces; Total Force

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

BD OF VISITORS, US MILITARY ACADEMY, 2001-2002